

ST. JOHNS HERALD

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Superior Court.

On Tuesday afternoon at ten minutes after six o'clock, a tired and sleepy jury, after twenty hours of hard, mind-racking work, brought in a verdict of 'Not Guilty' in the case of Ignacio Lopez, charged with the murder of Sam J. Saffell, in St. Johns on the 27th day of June, 1912. A queer coincidence is the fact that almost to the second, the verdict was given in open Court just one year after the defendant was bound over to await the action of the Grand Jury, by Judge J. S. Gibbons. One year ago, on the first day of July Lopez's preliminary examination was held.

Sentiment has run very high, both for and against the defendant, but anyone, hearing the testimony as given in the case, could not but think that the jury's verdict was the result of long and careful deliberation. Especially was the jury instructed in regard to the necessity that the State's chain of circumstantial evidence should be absolutely unbroken, and that it should be consistent throughout. Every careful observer could not but appreciate the fact that there were a number of missing links or at least a number of rather weak ones, and there were also a number of things brought out on the witness stand that were not entirely consistent with the State's view of the case.

The entire hearing was peculiar in that, paralleling each other, both the State and the defense had a strong wall of circumstantial evidence, and when the case was finally submitted to jury, hardly a person who had heard the evidence dared venture a guess as to what the verdict would be.

That it was what the jury believed to be justified by the evidence, can not be doubted, for in the history of Apache County, probably there has never been gathered another jury more broad minded, conscientious and fair.

On last Saturday, Judge F. W. Perkins of Flagstaff, who has been sitting on the bench here in certain cases in which Judge Ling was disqualified, handed down a decision in the case of Barrett vs Barrett. In his de-

cision of the consolidated cases, Mrs. Maud R. Barrett was granted the divorce prayed for in her complaint, the custody of the children and also all property claimed by Mr. Barrett. Mrs. Barrett's petition that another guardian be appointed for the custody of the property of the children of Henry Barrett was also granted.

After about five hours deliberation yesterday, the jury empaneled in the case of The State of Arizona vs. Milo Bennett and S. E. Day, Jr., brought in a verdict of 'Not Guilty'. This case has created much interest, owing to the standing and wide acquaintance of the defendants, and especially of Mr. Day and his father, S. E. Day, who is one of the best liked men in Apache County.

The defendants were charged with having stolen a certain steer from L. H. Watzler of Holbrook. The defense, in an able manner, evidently proved to jury that the steer together with fourteen others, had been purchased from Navajo Indians, and had been driven by Mr. Bennett and Mr. Day to Gallup, where the bunch was sold.

County Attorney F. W. Nelson, E. S. Clark Esq. and Judge Barnum of Phoenix, representing the Arizona Live Stock Sanitary Board, handled the case for the State while J. E. Jones Esq. and Ove E. Overson, Esq. represented the defendants.

Commencing at 10:30 yesterday morning the remainder of the day was taken up in the Superior Court with the hearing of the petition for Habeas Corpus in the Rinehard case. The case was heard behind closed doors, in order to shield the feelings of all parties concerned. The examination of all the witnesses was a most grilling one, and everyone in the Court room heaved a sigh of relief when the case was brought to a close a little after six o'clock yesterday afternoon Judge Ling took the matter under advisement. At the time of going to press a decision had not yet been rendered.

Ward Heap is visiting with his parents this week and will also spend the Fourth in town.

F. W. Nelson, Master Leland Nelson S. E. Clark of Prescott, J. E. Jones of Flagstaff and Judge Barnum of Phoenix, left last night about ten o'clock in Mr. Nelson's car for Prescott, where they will spend the 4th. Mr. Nelson will also join in the run to the Grand Canyon on the 5th. Mr. Jones was particularly anxious to finish up his work in Court, as he has been selected to deliver the principal oration at the Pioneer day Celebration in Prescott tomorrow. Provide Mr. Nelson's E-M-F works in its usual manner, they will make the trip in good time, but otherwise there may be a Fourth of July celebration out on the desert somewhere, with this crowd of legal lights as the audience, as well as the entertainers.

The "Williams News" for many years edited and owned by Frank L. Moore was last week sold to Mr. J. D. Van Eaton formerly of the Phoenix Democrat. The purchase price being about \$3,000. Mr Moore will leave shortly for the coast where he intends to make his home in the future.

There is an apparently well founded report around the city that J. Fred Johnson is making preparations to put in operation a competing express and passenger line between St. Johns and Holbrook. If Mr. Johnson starts anything like this, it is a foregone conclusion that he will put it through—and also that we will be able to get our bottled goods—
an others—up on time. Competition is the life of business.

Daniel Pulsipher of Vernon was in town this week. He says that everything is getting pretty dry at Vernon.

The building in which El Refrescador is located is under going repairs and will soon be fitted out with a new roof.

John F. Sherwood the general manager of the White Mountain Lumber Company is in the city this week attending to business matters and will remain to spend the Fourth.

We Want Y=O=U

to feel just as free to come into this bank and ask questions about the advantages of having a bank account for the care and protection of YOUR money as you would feel in going into any store to ask about the quality or price of a piece of goods.

No matter how small your income a bank account will help you to take better care of it, help you to accumulate more.

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